
WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT 2019

OVERVIEW

The 10th International Conference on Sustainable Water Resources Management took place in Alicante, Spain. The Conference was organised by the Wessex Institute, UK, represented by Professor Stefano Mambretti, and the University of Alicante, Spain, represented by Professor Joaquin Melgarejo Moreno.

The conference, which started in Halkidiki, Greece in 2001, is well-established and always attracts a wide international spread of delegates. The variety of topics covered by the conference reflects the complex interaction of water resources management while considering economic constraints and the effects on the community.

OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference was opened by Stefano Mambretti who welcomed the delegates to the conference, before paying tribute to the founder of the Wessex Institute, the late Professor Carlos A. Brebbia.

Professor Stefano Mambretti then mentioned that the main object of WIT is the dissemination of knowledge, with particular emphasis on science and engineering. Another way in which this is achieved is by the publication of papers from conferences and Journals, through its publishing arm, WIT Press.

Patricia Fernandez-Aracil of the University of Alicante gave a presentation welcoming the delegates to the University.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

There were a series of invited lectures on advanced topics of research and applications, as follows:

“Priority water uses from 1998 to 2017 for urban, suburban and rural residents of the Pacific Northwest, USA”, **Robert Mahler**, University of Idaho, USA.

“An integrated model to manage water scarcity in highly complex systems of south-east Spain”, **Patricia Fernandez-Aracil**, University of Alicante, Spain.

“Constructed wetlands and their implementation on private and public land in Kathmandu Valley, Nepal”, **Zuzana Boukalova**, VODNÍ ZDROJE, a.s., Czech Republic.



La Marjal Floodable Park

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

The papers presented during the conference were classified under the following headings:

- Water management and planning
- Water quality and pollutant control
- Wastewater treatment
- Climate change
- Water and the community

TECHNICAL EXCURSION

There were numerous occasions for holding informal discussions during the coffee breaks and the complimentary lunches provided. The delegates visited two locations, La Marjal Floodable Park and the University of Alicante Desalination Plant. La Marjal is one of the flood prevention strategies created by the local council of Alicante. The park is 36,000 m² and can hold up to 45,000 m³ of storm water. La Marjal acts as a reservoir, collecting and storing rainwater so that it can be reused. Both the local population and tourists can visit La Marjal Floodable Park outside of the rain periods and enjoy the gardens. The University of Alicante's Reverse Osmosis Desalination Plant was built in 1996 and started its operation in January 1997. Since starting, the water produced has been earmarked for the irrigation of the on-campus green areas. At the same time, the Plant is involved in the training of postgraduates, technicians, etc. and is visited by different university and external groups.



University of Alicante Desalination Plant

CONFERENCE PUBLICATION

Papers presented at this conference will appear in Vol. 229 of the WIT Transactions on Ecology and the Environment (ISSN 1743-3541). Papers presented at the meeting will be available Open Access in the eLibrary of the Wessex Institute (www.witpress.com/elibrary) from where they can be freely downloaded by any interested parties. A few papers were selected for publication in the International Journal of Sustainable Development and Planning. This Journal covers the subjects of environmental design and planning, environmental management, spatial planning, environmental planning, environmental management and sustainable development in an integrated way as well as in accordance with the principles of sustainability.

ISAC MEETING

The meeting of the International Scientific Advisory Committee (ISAC) of the Conference took place following the first day of conference sessions. At the meeting, members of the committee were encouraged to inform WIT of any suggestions for new topics to the conference and also discussed the evolution of the conference.

CONFERENCE DINNER

The Conference dinner took place at Dársena Restaurant, where the participants could enjoy local dishes, including an exceptional range of fresh fish and shellfish purchased daily from the nearby fish market. The evening was particularly appreciated by the participants.

CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference was closed by Professor Stefano Mambretti, who thanked the delegates for attending and hoped that they would consider attending the next conference in the series which is due to be reconvened in 2021.



Delegates at the conference dinner at Dársena